

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

AMERICA AND EUROPE—A TIME FOR UNITY, A TIME FOR VISION

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, just a few days ago, the Center for Strategic and International Studies organized an outstanding conference in Brussels of leading European and American government, parliamentary, business, and intellectual leaders. A number of our colleagues were invited to attend and participate, and the Speaker of the House and the Democratic leader both strongly encouraged Members to participate in this outstanding conference.

Mr. Speaker, we are at a critical period in the relationship between the United States and the countries of Europe. We have—gratefully—come to the end of the half-century long cold war, but as yet we have not resolved the nature of the post-cold war world. We have not yet completed this important period of change and reordering of international relationships. We are on the eve of momentous decisions regarding the expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty, and there is a solid consensus on the importance and wisdom of inviting a number of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe to become members of NATO, with the prospect of further enlargement later. The European Union is moving toward inviting several of these same countries to become full members of the European Union.

At the same time that we are facing these changes in the international arena, however, we in the United States have entered into a period of more inward focus, and our domestic preoccupation unfortunately runs directly counter to what our role ought to be at this time of great fluidity in the international system. This is a time when leadership and far-sighted international statesmanship is needed by the United States and from the United States. We must actively and constructively participate in the shaping and forming of the post-cold war international system. It is essential that we actively participate because of our extensive economic, political, cultural, and other interests throughout the world.

This CSIS conference was particularly important in reaffirming and helping key participants define and redefine the Trans-Atlantic community of interests that we in the United States share with our friends in Europe—interests that are expressed through our commitment to NATO, our relationship with the European Union and its member states, and growing multiplicity of ties with the newly emerging democracies of Central and Eastern Europe and the newly-independent republics of the former Soviet Union.

Mr. Speaker, this excellent CSIS conference was most ably chaired by Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, the former National Security Advisor to President Carter and a distinguished scholar, and M. Jacques Delors, the distinguished French diplomat and former President

of the European Commission of the European Union. Both of these outstanding men guided the conference through a series of extremely productive discussions that more than fulfilled our hopes for this conference.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that Dr. Brzezinski's concluding remarks at the CSIS conference be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to read them carefully and thoughtfully. His observations are particularly significant in putting into context the importance of the decisions we and our allies and friends in Europe face. These are choices that will affect the future of our Nation and of the world—and our choice is either actively to participate by taking positive steps to influence the future or passively to watch as conditions develop that will profoundly affect our Nation but with or without our active participation in shaping them.

AMERICA AND EUROPE: A TIME FOR UNITY, A TIME FOR VISION FEBRUARY 22, 1997

(By Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski)

Ladies and gentlemen, let me say that I personally feel very grateful for having had the opportunity to participate in these sessions, and also to serve as co-chairman with Jacques Delors who has added so much gravitas and distinction to our proceedings.

As we come to an end of what has been a very rich, very diversified discussion, I would like to share with you my own sense of what I have extracted from our dialogue. Obviously, it would be futile to recapitulate its various fine points or to replicate the specific foci of our debates.

I come away, however, with an intensified awareness of the fact that we stand before two grand challenges to which we jointly have to respond. In effect, we have to fashion two grand bargains for the next decade. The first involves a trans-Atlantic relationship, and particularly insofar as the United States is concerned, we have to come to terms with the fact that if Europe is to be our partner, it has to be an equal partner. There is a fundamental truth in this assertion and an enormous operational difficulty. Partnership has been the American rhetoric for years. It is the official rhetoric of our bureaucracy, but it is not necessarily practiced. And I think that we will have to adjust, step by step, to the idea that if Europe is to be a partner, there will have to be operational and institutional adjustments in how we make decisions and how we share responsibilities. And that will mean some American concessions.

But it also means something else. It means that Europe has to be there. We cannot create Europe for the Europeans. A European Europe has to be built by the Europeans. If America is to be Europe's partner, and if Europe is to be America's equal partner, Europe has to be prepared to shoulder larger responsibilities, and more equal burdens. And that is a very major undertaking which sometimes is overlooked by those who insist on greater equality across the Atlantic, on equality in decision making but not necessarily on equality in the burdens of decisions. So this is a task for the two of us.

The second task is that NATO and Russia have to agree on an accommodation which acknowledges the reality of a larger Europe, and of a Europe that by virtue of being large-

er, involves also a larger Euro-Atlantic alliance. Russia and NATO have to agree, therefore, in that context, not only on the relationship, but on a role for Russia in the larger context of European security and in relationship to the Euro-Atlantic alliance. And that requires us to formulate serious proposals—which we are in the process of doing—for joint consultations, for some co-participation in the discussions pertinent to regional security policies and actions. But it also means that Russia has to accept reciprocal obligations. It is not only a matter of Russia having a voice which pertains—and I am being careful in my wording—not determines, but which pertains to NATO decisions. It does not only mean concessions which are reassuring to Russia regarding NATO troop deployments or weapons deployments. It also means symmetrical Russian concessions regarding NATO's voice on pertinent Russian decisions regarding troop deployments or weapons deployments. For example, NATO already has made a peremptory and preemptive concession (without even asking would-be members) on the question of NATO nuclear deployments on the soil of new members. I actually happen to feel confident that the new members would not want to have nuclear weapons on their soil, but they probably would have preferred to make that decision themselves once members of the NATO alliance. Nonetheless, NATO in its wisdom has already told the Russians that it will refrain from the deployment of nuclear weapons on the soil of new members.

I think it behooves us also to ask the Russians about the prospects for nuclear demilitarization, at the very least, of the Kaliningrad segment, which happens to be located in Central Europe and is very pertinent to the security of the Scandinavian-Baltic region. It is very pertinent to the security of Germany; it is very pertinent to the security of Poland. Similar questions could be raised regarding troop deployments on the western frontiers of Russia, particularly next to the very vulnerable Baltic Republics. In brief, the grand bargain with Russia has to involve, also, reciprocal understandings, reciprocal obligations. It is essential that these grand bargains be both completed because failure in either case would entail negative consequences.

If we do not accept, in a real sense, Europe as an equal partner, I rather fear that the United States will be torn in the years to come by the opposite poles of unilateralism and isolationism. If we and Europe do not share burdens in common, do not make decisions in common, do not have a genuine reality of partnership, the American public on the one hand will occasionally veer towards isolationism; on other occasions, it will favor unilateralism and even wallow in it. And that real risk could, over time, adversely affect the quality of the very unique relationship that we have with each other.

If Europe fails to unify and thus to become a genuine partner, I think it is a fair question to ask whether the forces of historical pessimism now at work in Europe will not begin to prevail over the forces of historical optimism in Europe.

Looking at Europe from the vantage point of America, but exploiting somewhat my own European antecedents, I sense that there are conflicting forces at work in contemporary European societies. That the era

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

of optimism, of Europeanism, may be challenged by forces which are much more inward oriented, which in some cases can be more domestically narrow minded, occasionally, even ethnically or religiously xenophobic. This would not be good for Europe. It certainly would complicate Europe's relationship with us, irrespective of what would happen in the American orientation.

If we do not reach the grand bargain with Russia, there is the risk that Russia will be more antagonistic, and that is something that we want to avoid. Though in seeking to avoid it, we should not be shy in saying publicly that the expansion of NATO will in fact help a democratic Russia. We should not be shy in saying it, and we should not be shy in coupling this with saying that the expansion of NATO will hurt an imperial Russia. And we should not be shy in saying that either, because that pertains to the fundamental question regarding Russia itself, namely what will Russia be in the future. This is a large, creative dynamic nation undergoing a profound crisis of self-definition. The collapse of the Soviet Union has brought home the reality to many Russians that the four hundred year long imperial history of Russia has come to an end. But many find it very difficult to accept that and this is particularly true of the former Soviet foreign policy establishment, which is now the Russian foreign policy establishment. The idea of the multinational Russian imperial power still is deeply rooted, providing the basis, therefore, for Russia's claim to global status. What the Russians should realize—they have to realize—is that if Russia is again to be a great country, it can only be a great country if it democratizes itself and modernizes itself, and indeed, the two probably go hand-in-hand. But the quest for an imperial restoration is futile, counterproductive, and we will not support it. And we will not pay a price to avoid Russian antagonism that the for the sake of avoiding the antagonism makes that restoration, perhaps, more feasible.

So failure to have the grand bargain would be regrettable. But even worse than that would be if NATO just expands a little bit or cuts a deal with Russia which dilutes NATO's identity by de facto making Russia a member of NATO while promising that there will be no further expansion. For that I think would be profoundly demoralizing to those who would be left out, and profoundly destabilizing, in terms of the future, for it would create a zone of disappointment, psychological vulnerability, as Congressman Lantos said yesterday, and geopolitical anxiety which would be fully justified. And it would create temptations in Russia to define itself in a historically adverse fashion. So the failure to have a grand bargain would be regrettable, but a grant bargain which dilutes NATO, and which limits the progressive expansion of the Euro-Atlantic scale would be even worse.

And the worst of all would be failure to deliver on that which we have undertaken, which is to expand, because we made a decision. We have made it, all sixteen of us have made it. We are committed. And if we now fail to go through with it, either in July, or more likely in the ratification process, we will be signaling that we have neither the will nor the capacity nor the determination to shape the kind of world we want to have which is democratic, pluralistic and secure. This is a fundamental historical challenge.

Thus at issue are three great realities: what is the global role of America, and how we share our global responsibilities with Europe as a partner who partakes of the same philosophy and values; at stake is the question whether Europe will be Europe, a real Europe, and not a truncated Europe, or worse, a Europe that is divided; and, ultimately at stake is also the question of how Russia divines itself, and whether it will

someday be a party of that larger community of which America and Europe are currently engaged in constructing.

Those are the great challenges that we face. And, therefore, the kind of judgments that we were making yesterday and today are not only strategic, they are historical. And the choice, I think is clear. If we have the vision, I trust we will also have the will.

KENYA'S STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE

HON. BILL MCCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 1997

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, just as the international trade between Europe and East Asia and the flow of oil out of the Middle East are becoming increasingly important for the well-being and growth of the U.S. economy, a new threat to the safety of maritime transportation has emerged. Iran is rapidly moving to acquire blue water capabilities—the ability to use its navy on the high seas.

The Iranians are vastly improving their naval capabilities—a development of global strategic importance. The recent completion of a few acquisition programs of naval vessels and antishipping missiles from the PRC and the arrival of the third KIL0 submarine from Russia boosted Tehran's self-confidence in its ability to conduct combat operations on a far wider area. These weapons deliveries constitute a major upgrade of Iran's naval capabilities. Moreover, the recent deliveries are but the first phase of a major and far more comprehensive naval expansion program, mainly based on the acquisition of numerous surface combatants from the PRC, that will take several years to complete. By then, Iran will have the most powerful navy in the Persian Gulf region.

Ultimately, however, most significant is the doctrinal development reflecting strategic self-confidence and audacity demonstrated by Iran's recent naval operations. Iran is increasingly looking into acquiring regional blue-water capabilities. The Iranian Navy already has proven the capability to operate over long distances. Most impressive were their operations during joint naval exercises with the Pakistani Navy throughout the Arabian Sea, and the visits to Indonesia by their naval combatants. The Iranian Navy has also operated from several port facilities in Sudan and Somalia, where Iran maintains what amounts to several military and naval bases.

The significant development of early 1997 is Iran's acquisition of access to, and use of, naval facilities in Mozambique. In return for diversified military aid, the Iranian Navy will be able to use port facilities in Maputo and Ncala, where the Soviets and Cubans built military-compatible port facilities. The agreement between Iran and Mozambique specifically permits Iran to use the port facilities for its submarines, including the stationing of technical support teams in Mozambique and the maintaining of replenishment and crew-support installations.

The true significance of all these activities becomes apparent in the context of assertive military doctrine—to forestall, perhaps even launch preemptive strikes against, U.S. intervention in case of a major escalation in the Persian Gulf region.

The key to Tehran's war plan in the Persian Gulf is preventing quick U.S. military intervention. Hence, it is imperative for Tehran to be

able to prevent the timely arrival of U.S. Naval Forces. Tehran is determined to acquire military capabilities to perform this mission. Considering the disparity between the United States and Iranian Navies, the only way the Iranians can affect an American intervention is by actually seeking out and engaging the United States Naval Forces far away from the Persian Gulf before they can affect other activities in the region.

Iran need not engage primary objectives such as carrier task forces. For example, the sinking of the prepositioned ships operating from Diego Garcia will significantly hinder any U.S. military buildup in the Middle East. Moreover, a credible threat to these resupply ships will compel the U.S. Navy to divert naval assets that could have been used offensively elsewhere to escort and protect the resupply efforts.

Iran's ability to maintain submarine patrols between Mozambique and the Arabian Sea constitutes this kind of threat, for they create a barrier between Diego Garcia and the Persian Gulf. One should remember that Iran is capable of threatening the shipping lanes along the Red Sea from its bases and facilities in Sudan and Somalia. Tehran is convinced that in case of a major war in the Persian Gulf, this kind of naval operation will be able to delay an intervention by the United States until it is too late to save the local Arab governments.

In the meantime, Teheran continues to raise the ante against the United States, the Arab States of the Persian Gulf, and specifically Saudi Arabia. Anticipating a new round of brinkmanship and a possible eruption in the Middle East, Teheran warns the Arab States against permitting the United States to operate against the Iranians. In early February 1997, Ayatollah Khomeini delivered explicit threats during his al-Quds Day sermon. "If any of these foreigners in the Persian Gulf makes one miscalculated move that could lead to instability, the first country that will burn will be the one that invited these foreigners here in the first place," he declared.

This strategic development is not irreversible. There are ways to remedy the situation. The key to countering and reversing this Iranian surge lies in the West being able to operate in the area and project power from local installations. In this context Kenya's strategic importance cannot be underestimated.

Kenya's geopolitical status is critical to the international community. It is situated in a key position to dominate sea lanes running into and out of the Red Sea/Suez Canal, as well as the sea lanes along East Africa. Therefore, Kenya's ability to act as a point of naval projection into the Indian Ocean is most important, particularly in light of possible Iranian-Sudanese attempts to close the Suez Canal, and the potential Chinese incursion into the Indian Ocean. In the event of radical Chinese moves against the Southeast Asian shipping lanes, and the eventual vulnerability of Diego Garcia, only India, Australia, South Africa, and Kenya would be able to effectively provide the springboard for Western security operations in the Indian Ocean. Kenya is the closest bastion, and its port system is at the heart of, the newly expanded theater of operations of the Iranian navy.

Teheran and Khartoum are fully aware of Kenya's importance. Kenya is situated immediately adjacent to Sudan and Somalia and acts as a containing buffer against the southward spread of radical and Islamic activity. If Kenya was to embrace the radicalism being pushed down on it from Khartoum, and the anomy flowing down from Mogadishu, then any hope for stability in eastern and central Africa would be lost.

President Daniel T. Arap Moi of Kenya has so far resisted the spread of radicalism and Islamism. Kenya acts, and could act even more, as a potential source of stability for the entire central and east Africa.

Kenya has traditionally been a pro-Western free market culture as a nation-state. In this regard, Nairobi sets an example for, and acts in a leadership capacity to, the other nations of sub-Saharan Africa. President Arap Moi's ongoing commitment to Western-type ideals acts as a benchmark in sub-Saharan Africa.

Kenya has usually aligned itself with the United States and Britain in global strategic matters, and has often provided a bridge to the developing world. Now, as the so-called developing world becomes a far more dynamic and unstable strategic element in its own right, the availability of that bridge which Kenya offers is of even greater importance to Washington.

STANDARDIZE MEDICARE COVERAGE FOR BONE DENSITY TESTING

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 1997

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, osteoporosis is a major public health problem affecting 28 million Americans, who either have the disease or are at risk due to low bone mass; 80 percent are women. The disease causes 1.5 million fractures annually at a cost of \$13.8 billion—\$38 million per day—in direct medical expenses, and osteoporotic fractures cost the Medicare Program 3 percent of its overall costs. In their lifetimes, one in two women and one in eight men over the age of 50 will fracture a bone due to osteoporosis. A woman's risk of a hip fracture is equal to her combined risk of contracting breast, uterine, and ovarian cancer.

Osteoporosis is largely preventable and thousands of fractures could be avoided if low bone mass was detected early and treated. We now have drugs that promise to reduce fractures by 50 percent. However, identification of risk factors alone cannot predict how much bone a person has and how strong bone is. Experts estimate that without bone density tests, up to 40 percent of women with low bone mass could be missed.

Unfortunately, Medicare's coverage of bone density tests is inconsistent. Instead of national coverage of scientifically approved types of bone density tests, Medicare leaves decisions to local Medicare insurance carriers. The definition of who is qualified to receive a bone mass measurement varies from carrier to carrier. Some carriers require beneficiaries to have suffered substantial bone loss before allowing coverage for a bone density test. For example, in about 20 States, the carriers re-

quire x-ray proof of low bone mass or other abnormalities. Unfortunately, standard x-ray tests do not reveal osteoporosis until 25 to 40 percent of bone mass has been lost.

One carrier allows a premenopausal woman to have a DXA test to determine whether hormone replacement therapy [HRT] is indicated. However, it does not allow the test to determine treatment for the postmenopausal women—the majority of Medicare beneficiaries. Other carriers have no specific rules to guide reimbursement and cover the tests on a haphazard case-by-case basis.

Frequency of testing also varies from carrier to carrier. Retesting is important to monitor treatment, yet only eight States specifically allow coverage for people who are under treatment for osteoporosis.

Inconsistency of bone mass measurement coverage policy is confusing and unfair to beneficiaries. Today, Congresswoman NANCY JOHNSON and I, along with 23 of our colleagues, are introducing the Medicare Bone Mass Measurement Coverage Standardization Act. The bill would eliminate the confusion and standardize Medicare's coverage of bone mass measurement tests in order to avoid some of the 1.5 million fractures caused annually by osteoporosis. Considering that bone density tests are already covered by every Medicare carrier, this bill will not add significantly to the cost of the Medicare Program.

I urge my colleagues to join us as cosponsors of this important legislation.

HONORING MONTEBELLO CHIEF OF POLICE "STEVE" SIMONIAN FOR 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 1997

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Montebello Chief of Police George Stephen Simonian. On Saturday, March 8, 1997, Steve's family, friends and colleagues at the city of Montebello honored him for his many years of service to the greater Montebello community.

Steve began his career as a police officer for the city of Montebello at the young age of 21, performing duties as assigned, including traffic patrol, report writing, radio dispatcher, and desk information officer. Five years later, he was one of the first officers to achieve senior officer rank. He was given the duties of a patrol officer with merit pay, in addition to training and supervisory responsibilities. Quickly moving up the ranks, the next year, Steve was promoted to narcotics detective, where he investigated violations of narcotics laws and arrested violators. This developed into an undercover position, with Steve working as a consultant to other agencies, due to his expertise in this field.

In September 1979, Steve was again promoted, to the rank of sergeant. He remained in intelligence, supervising the unit while instilling the high standards of performance that remain today. In August 1982, Steve was selected to supervise the newly consolidated narcotics and intelligence unit. Under his leadership, narcotics seizures rose dramatically, and conviction rates increased. In 1985, Steve was promoted to the rank of captain, and 3

years later to the rank of deputy police chief. On July 1, 1989, Steve was promoted to chief of police, responsible for overseeing the operations and activities of the city of Montebello's police department.

Throughout his career with the Montebello Police Department, Steve has received over 29 awards from Federal, State and local agencies, including the American Legion's Police Officer of the Year, and has twice been bestowed with the city of Montebello's highest management award, "Manager of the Year," an accomplishment unmatched by any other city official. In addition to the numerous awards he has received, Steve has maintained membership in several professional organizations throughout his career, including the California Peace Officers Association; Latino Peace Officers Association; Oriental Peace Officers Association; International Footprint Association; San Gabriel Valley Chiefs Association; president-elect of the Los Angeles County Police Chiefs Association; and the Los Angeles County Anti-Drug Abuse Committee.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a good friend and distinguished public servant, Montebello Chief of Police Steve Simonian. I proudly join the city of Montebello in honoring Steve for his lifetime of contributions to public safety and law enforcement in the greater Montebello community.

TRIBUTE TO ERIN WATSON

HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 1997

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, each year the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and its Ladies Auxiliary conduct the Voice of Democracy broadcast scripting contest. This year more than 109,000 secondary school students participated in the contest competing for the 54 national scholarships which were distributed among the 54 national winners. The contest theme this year was "Democracy-Above and Beyond."

I am proud to announce that Ms. Erin Watson from my district won the 1997 Voice of Democracy broadcast scripting contest for the entire State of North Carolina. A senior at Franklin High School in Franklin, NC, Erin is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mart T. Watson of Franklin. This is indeed an honor of which all North Carolinians can be proud.

The Voice of Democracy Scholarship Program was started 50 years ago by the National Association of Broadcasters, Electronic Industries Association, and State Association of Broadcasters. In 1960, the Veterans of Foreign Wars assumed sole sponsorship responsibility. That year, a total of four scholarships were presented, totaling \$3,750.

Under VFW sponsorship, the annual national scholarships have increased to 55 fully funded scholarships totaling \$125,000. During this past year, 117,000 students participated, 7,900 schools, 5,200 VFW posts, and 4,200 Ladies Auxiliaries.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in saluting Erin Watson for contributions made to her country, North Carolina, and the Franklin community. She is a shining example of what young people should be today

and an asset to the 11th District of North Carolina, and I am honored to share her award winning remarks with all of my colleagues.

"DEMOCRACY—ABOVE AND BEYOND"

(By Erin Watson—1996-97 VFW Voice of Democracy Scholarship Program)

Who in his right mind could even consider building an industrial park in the middle of our beautiful mountain valley? The county commissioners talked like it was a done deal, and it looked like the project would be railroaded through, when the question arose, what do the people of that area think? At the public hearing, citizens from all over the county spoke emotionally against it, 10 to 1. But, when the meeting ended, it appeared that the people of this valley could not be heard.

"Why should we bother to have such a meeting?" I asked my Dad. "Did anybody say anything that mattered? Who says we have such a great country?"

Many times I have wondered why my ancestors would sell all, leave family, and suffer greatly to come to America. I have imagined their joy when into view came that tall shining figure standing on the shore with her torch held high, offering warmth, safety, and freedom. It must have been this light my ancestors sought for the promise of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." But on this night I wondered, why this country? What burning desire pushed them forward at all costs? And what did they see here that I was not seeing as I learned more about our democratic system?

Then I was given the chance to spend a month in the country of Russia. I really wasn't searching for answers when I moved in with Masha and her family in Rostov. But soon I could see everywhere people would give all for that precious gift of freedom. My Russian Mama and Papa warned me not to be opinionated in public. The freedom of speech I understood was not practiced nor allowed, Papa gently explained. I also discovered that the creativity of school students was very limited, and they were not taught how, but what to think. All students studied American History, and most of them knew English. I thought about the little Russian History I knew, and marveled that they would learn all they could about my country. It soon became apparent that these students harbored a hope of going to America, and prepared for that day.

As time passed, I began to long for my home in America, where I knew I was safe and free. Masha and her family hugged me tearfully as I boarded the departing train. I waved from the window as Masha ran alongside the train, calling "I will come to America." Then she was out of sight. I longed to take my Russian friends with me, fulfilling their lifelong dream.

On the trip home, I reflected on those brave people who saw and followed the light of America's democracy. I felt like my ancestors embarking on my own journey to freedom. My family laughed as I hugged the ground in my yard. How could they know of the pride and love I had for my country, and the newfound respect for her democracy? I, too would have given all to come home to America.

I have learned that to be an American is more than simply partaking of the freedoms we enjoy. It is our right and obligation to be a working part of our democracy, which is truly a government "of the people, by the people, and for the people" of America. I understand my part in keeping democracy's light burning bright, so others can enjoy these same freedoms. I know I must encourage others to show their love for America

and take an active part in our democracy, too.

And, when I have a family of my own, I will share my experiences as I teach them to respect and love their country and the principles on which she was founded. I will teach them to be proud to be governed as a free people, and to be willing to defend and serve whenever needed. I will teach them to speak out when issues affect their homes and lives. I will teach them to vote, and be active in their communities so our light may continue to shine. I will point to our beautiful valley, and recount the events that caused the county commissioners to swallow their pride and abandon the industrial park project. I will proudly explain how the voice of the people was heard in our community, and how our democratic system worked again.

At last I do understand why America is the place my ancestors turned for hope. It is the shining light of democracy, the freedom to be what each person wishes to be. It is the freedom to succeed, and be useful and needed in a society that fosters individual creativity, and allows each person his full potential. And it is the promise that the next generation can have a better life than the last, if we uphold the values and statutes that our ancestors sacrificed for and loved so dearly.

For my friend Masha and those like her around the world, we must continue to hold our democratic ideals high. We cannot bring other nations to democracy, but we can lead so that all may see and want to follow. American Democracy, like that shining statue, does stand as a light above all others, and reaches out to those far beyond its borders.

THE MELISSA INSTITUTE FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 1997

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention and Treatment for its grassroots efforts in turning a tragic loss into something constructive for others.

Melissa Aptman was brutally murdered on May 5, 1995, just 2 weeks before she would have graduated from Washington University in St. Louis, MO. A charming and gifted young woman, she was taken from her family, friends, and society by a senseless, violent crime. Melissa grew up in Miami and was a graduate of the Dade County public schools. While in college, she worked for the school newspaper, mentored an inner-city student, participated in sorority affairs, and sat on the Panhellenic Standards Board.

Days before her death, Melissa wrote about violence against women on a college exam. "Such acts," she wrote "attempt to break the human spirit and destroy the state of mind of those involved." She added that "In spite of the brutality imposed on them women almost always find some source of strength."

Melissa's family has drawn strength from her words. They believe that we cannot let evil win. As a result, they have turned their grief into action, launching their own battle against violence and its devastating impact on victims and their families by creating the Melissa Institute in her honor.

The mission of the Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention and Treatment is to bridge

the gap between expert knowledge of the nature and impact of violence and the practical application of this knowledge. Their first major conference on violence and youth will be held on May 2, 1997, in Miami, FL.

We must work together to fight evil and violence.

PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE CORAL REEF FISHING PRACTICES WORLDWIDE

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 1997

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing a resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the United States and the United Nations should condemn fishing practices that are harmful to coral reef ecosystems and promote the development of sustainable coral reef fishing practices worldwide.

Coral reefs are vital to the environment and the economy of many island and coastal nations. They are among the most biologically diverse and productive ecosystems on Earth, rivaling the tropical rainforests on land. The hard structure of the reef is built up over thousands of years by the secretions of the tiny living coral animals. So, a coral reef is truly a living structure. And, as a living structure, thousands—perhaps millions—of individual coral animals are dying and others are taking their place on the reef at any one time.

The problem is that now human activities have shifted that balance and coral reefs are dying off at an alarming rate worldwide. Corals are very sensitive to water pollution, sedimentation, damage from boat groundings, and even simple physical contact by divers. These largely inadvertent injuries are a significant cause of the well-documented decline of coral reefs worldwide. Coral reefs are, in a sense, the canary in the coal mine of the oceans.

A great deal of injury is being inflicted on coral reefs, mainly in Southeast Asia, through easily preventable, largely illegal fishing techniques. Cyanide, other poisons, and surfactants like dishwashing liquids, are being used to stun and capture fish for the aquarium trade and for the live food fish trade. These chemicals kill nearby coral, and divers scrambling to get fish out of nooks and crannies in the reef often inflict further damage on the reef. Although illegal virtually everywhere, dynamite is still being used on some reefs to stun or kill fish. Afterwards, they float to the surface where they are easily harvested. The effect on the reef is obviously devastating. Most of the aquarium fish captured in this way end up in hobbyists' tanks in the United States. Most of the live food fish end up on plates in the homes and restaurants of Southeast Asia.

Although the State Department, NOAA, Department of the Interior, and other agencies are working, through the International Coral Reef Initiative, to identify and reduce threats to coral reefs, they need our help. These kinds of unsustainable fishing practices would not be occurring if powerful market forces were not at work. United States and Asian consumer demand for reef fish is, in part, driving the destruction of coral reefs. Yet how many aquarium hobbyists would purchase a wild-caught

reef fish if they truly understood that in doing so, they were aiding the destruction of the reef environment that they sought to reproduce in their tank. Furthermore, if affordable alternatives to wild-caught fish were available, wouldn't the educated consumer choose them? This has worked very well in the exotic bird trade; we could do the same for reef aquarium specimens.

Many of the countries where the reefs are being destroyed—Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and others—have laws on the books protecting their reefs. But there is little money for enforcement, and the more lucrative the market, the more people are willing to risk the penalties in any case. So the keys are information and education. Only by identifying these destructive practices and the consumer demands that drive them can we begin to eliminate or modify them. And only through the development of sustainable coral reef fisheries can the reefs be saved.

That is what the resolution I am introducing today seeks to do. It is intended to raise the issue of these destructive fishing practices and associate them with the consumer demand that is driving them. It is intended to bring this issue before Congress and before the United Nations, raise the level of awareness of policymakers, and ask us to do more. The scientific and environmental communities have declared 1997 the International Year of the Coral Reef. We cannot stop ships from running aground on reefs and we may not be able to stop global warming. But what better time for us to pay attention to the global plight of coral reefs, and seek practical solutions to those threats that we can address. If we don't do something soon, there may not be any reefs left to save.

300TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BELLEVILLE REFORMED CHURCH

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the outstanding achievement of the 300th anniversary of the Belleville Reformed Church, of Belleville, NJ. As one of the oldest churches in America, I have the honor of being its Representative in the U.S. Congress.

Founded by Dutch settlers in 1697, the Belleville Reformed Church was originally known as the Old Dutch Church of Second River, with its first pastor being Reverend Berthoff. Throughout its history, the church had undergone several structural improvements. Records indicate that the Belleville Reformed Church's original building was replaced in 1725. In 1804, a tornado ruined that building and as a result, in 1807, a new edifice was dedicated.

As church membership grew, there was a need for new construction and in 1853, the present building was dedicated with the fellowship hall being added in 1895. The dedication of the building included the presentation of several memorial windows which are still in the buildings. In 1915, the present 8-rank pipe organ was purchased with matching funds from the Carnegie Foundation. The console of the organ has since been replaced but the pipes are the original.

In the past as in the present, the congregation of the church has demonstrated the ability to work together with the community and other faiths. When the new buildings were being replaced, church services were permitted in the neighboring Episcopal Church. In turn, the church allowed for services to be permitted in its building by Episcopal and Methodist churches. Even today, the church is shared with the First Hispanic Reformed Church. Relations with the community have also been generous with the anniversary of the township of Belleville being held in the church. On every Memorial Day, services are held, and the church bells are rung at the conclusion of the services, keeping with tradition begun in 1890, when the town requested that the bells be rung.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, the congregation of the Belleville Reformed Church, and the township of Belleville, in recognizing the historic tradition of the Belleville Reformed Church and its many important contributions to the community. For its 300th anniversary, it is only appropriate that the House recognizes the Belleville Reformed Church today.

STATEMENT OF THE DALAI LAMA ON THE 38TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TIBETAN UPRISING

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today—March 10th—marks the 38th anniversary of the Tibetan people's national uprising. It was on this day in 1959 that the people of Tibet, chaffing under a decade of repressive Chinese Communist rule and brutal occupation, rose up in a violent rebellion against the Chinese. It was a cry of a people whose religious institutions, whose educational institutions, and whose very way of life were being systematically destroyed.

The Chinese Government responded with savage brutality. Thousands were killed. Some 100,000 Tibetans fled their homeland and were given refuge in India and Nepal. Among those who were forced to flee their homeland was His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Since 1959 the Dalai Lama has lived in India, where he has continued to speak out and work on behalf of the people of Tibet—those still living in Tibet under Chinese rule and those in exile in India and elsewhere. Despite the violence and repression that he and his people have suffered, the Dalai Lama has become a voice for peace and nonviolence. In recognition of this outstanding contribution, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989.

Mr. Speaker, as we mark today the 38th anniversary of the Tibetan people's national uprising, I ask that the statement of His Holiness the Dalai Lama be placed in the RECORD. I urge my colleagues to read it. This gentle man of peace has again spoke with great wisdom, great force, and great integrity. His message is one that is important for all of us to understand.

STATEMENT ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE
TIBETAN NATIONAL UPRISING—MAR. 10, 1997
(By the Dalai Lama)

In the closing years of the 20th century, as we commemorate the 38th anniversary of the

Tibetan people's National Uprising, it is evident that the human community has reached a critical juncture in its history. The world is becoming smaller and increasingly interdependent. One nation's problem can no longer be solved by itself. Without a sense of universal responsibility our very future is in danger.

Today's problems of militarization, development, ecology, population, and the constant search for new sources of energy and raw materials require more than piece-meal actions and short term problem-solving. Modern scientific development has, to an extent, helped in solving mankind's problems. However, in tackling these global issues there is the need to cultivate not only the rational mind but also the other remarkable faculties of the human spirit: the power of love, compassion and solidarity.

A new way of thinking has become the necessary condition for responsible living and acting. If we maintain obsolete values and beliefs, a fragmented consciousness and self-centered spirit, we will continue to hold on to outdated goals and behaviors. Such an attitude by a large number of people would block the entire transition to an interdependent yet peaceful and cooperative global society.

We must draw lessons from the experience we gained. If we look back at the development in the 20th century, the most devastating cause of human suffering, of deprivation of human dignity, freedom and peace, has been the culture of violence in resolving differences and conflicts. In some ways, our century could be called the century of war and bloodshed. The challenge before us, therefore, is to make the next century a century of dialogue and non violent conflict resolution.

In human societies there will always be differences of views and interests. But the reality today is that we are all interdependent and have to co-exist on this small planet. Therefore, the only sensible and intelligent way of resolving differences and clashes of interests, whether between individuals or nations, is through dialogue. The promotion of a culture of dialogue and non-violence for the future of mankind is thus an important task of the international community. It is not enough for governments to endorse the principle of non-violence or hold it high without any appropriate action to promote it.

With these convictions I have led the Tibetan freedom struggle on a path of non-violence and have sought a mutually agreeable solution to the Tibetan issue through negotiations in a spirit of reconciliation and compromise. Inspired by the Buddha's message of non-violence and compassion, we have sought to respect every form of life and abandoned war as an instrument of national policy. For us Tibetans the path of non-violence is a matter of principle. And I am convinced that this approach is the most beneficial and practical course in the long run.

As we commemorate this anniversary, we look back at yet another year of escalating repression in Tibet where the Chinese authorities continue to commit widespread and grave human rights abuses.

Under the "Strike Hard" campaign launched by the Chinese authorities in April last year, Tibetans are subjected to increased torture and imprisonment for peacefully expressing their political aspirations. Political re-education conducted by the authorities in monasteries and nunneries throughout Tibet have resulted in mass expulsion, imprisonment and death. I continue to be concerned about the fate of Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, the boy I have recognized as the 11th Panchen Lama, and whose whereabouts are still not known.

Last year China dropped all pretense of respecting the ancient religious and cultural heritage of Tibet by launching a large-scale reform of its religious policy. The new policy states that "Buddhism must conform to socialism and not socialism to Buddhism". Under the pretext that religion would have a negative influence on Tibet's economic development, the new policy aims to systematically undermine and destroy the distinct cultural and national identity of the Tibetan people.

New measures to curtail the use of the Tibetan language in schools were introduced. The Tibet University in Lhasa has been compelled to teach even Tibetan history in the Chinese language at the Tibetan Language Department. Experimental Tibetan language middle schools, established in the 1980s with the active encouragement and support of the late Panchen Lama, are being closed down. These schools were very successful and were highly appreciated by Tibetans.

These new measures in the field of culture, religion and education, coupled with the unabated influx of Chinese immigrants to Tibet, which has the effect of overwhelming Tibet's distinct cultural and religious identity and reducing the Tibetans to an insignificant minority in their own country, amounts to a policy of cultural genocide. Today, in most major towns and cities Tibetans are already marginalized. If this population transfer is allowed to continue, in a few decades Tibetan civilization will cease to exist.

Tibetans have reacted to all this repression largely peacefully and I believe all people have the right to peacefully protest injustice. However, recent reports of isolated incidents of bomb explosion in Tibet are a cause of deep concern to me. I will continue to counsel for non violence, but unless the Chinese authorities forsake the brutal methods it employs, it will be difficult to prevent the situation in Tibet from deteriorating further.

Being a Tibetan, I have been giving particular importance to reaching out to the Chinese people, whether they are in China or elsewhere. It is in the interest of both the Tibetan people and the Chinese that there be a deeper level of understanding between ourselves. It has always been my belief that the cultivation of human relationship is of great importance in the creation of an atmosphere conducive to human understanding, mutual respect and peace.

In recent times the people-to-people dialogue between the Tibetans and Chinese is fostering a better understanding of our mutual concerns and interests. The growing empathy, support and solidarity from our Chinese brothers and sisters in China as well as overseas for the plight and fundamental rights of the Tibetan people is of particular inspiration and encouragement for us Tibetans.

The recent passing away of Mr. Deng Xiaoping is a great loss to China. I have known him personally. Mr. Deng Xiaoping took the initiative to establish direct contact with us to start a dialogue to solve the Tibetan problem. Unfortunately, serious negotiations could not take place during his lifetime. It is my sincere hope that the succeeding Chinese leadership will find the courage, wisdom and vision for new openings to solve the Tibetan issue through negotiations.

The beginning of a new era in modern China presents an opportunity for constructive change and positive development. The recent military clamp down in East Turkestan (Xinjiang), aimed at quelling the Uighur people's demonstrations and the ensuing cycle of violence are tragic and unfortunate. As in the case of Tibet, similarly

also in East Turkestan, a lasting and peaceful solution can be found only through dialogue. Another important task ahead for the Chinese government is the smooth transition of Hong Kong and the implementation of the pragmatic and wise concept of "one country, two systems" in spirit and letter. A constructive approach to these issues provides important opportunities to create a political climate of trust, confidence and openness, both domestically and internationally.

The growing international support for Tibet reflects the inherent human empathy for and solidarity with human suffering and universal appreciation for truth and justice. To portray the support for Tibet as a plot of Western anti-China forces is to evade the truth for political convenience. This is unfortunate because such kind of mental bamboo-walling will continue to prevent a constructive approach to solving the problem.

Ultimately, it is for the Tibetan and the Chinese peoples to find a mutually acceptable solution to the Tibetan issue. Bearing in mind this reality, we have consistently pursued a course of dialogue with the leadership in Beijing. However, Beijing's refusal to listen to and recognize the genuine grievances of our people left us with no other choice but to present our legitimate and just cause to the international community.

The Tibetan people have displayed a remarkable spirit of endurance, courage and patience in the face of the most brutal repression. I urge my fellow Tibetans to continue to resist violent acts of frustration and desperation as a means to protest against injustice and repression. If we give in to hatred, desperation and violence, we would debase ourselves to the level of the oppressors. The way of the oppressors is intimidation, coercion and the use of force. Ours is a belief in and reliance on truth, Justice and reason. This distinction is our most effective weapon. The call of the time for us in this period of difficulty is to exert ourselves with greater determination, wisdom and patience.

With my homage to and prayers for the brave men and women who have died for the cause of Tibetan freedom.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, March 11, 1997, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 12

- 9:00 a.m.
Select on Intelligence
To continue hearings on the nomination of Anthony Lake, of Massachusetts, to be Director of Central Intelligence. SH-216
- 9:30 a.m.
Budget
To hold joint hearings with the House Budget Committee to examine National governors' issues. SD-106
- Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting, to mark up S. 104, to reform United States policy with regard to the management and disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste. SD-366
- Labor and Human Resources
Public Health and Safety Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine scientific discoveries in cloning, focusing on challenges for public policy. SD-G50
- Rules and Administration
To hold oversight hearings on the operations of the Smithsonian Institution, the Woodrow Wilson International Center, and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. SR-301
- 10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense, focusing on missile projects. SD-192
- Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Justice. SD-138
- Armed Services
Airland Forces Subcommittee
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on Army Force XXI initiatives and Army modernization programs. SR-222
- Finance
To hold hearings to examine the Graduate Medical Education program. SD-215
- Foreign Relations
International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for security assistance. SD-419
- 2:00 p.m.
Armed Services
Strategic Forces Subcommittee
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on U.S. national security space programs and policies. SR-222
- Armed Services
Personnel Subcommittee
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and

the future years defense program, focusing on policies pertaining to military compensation and quality of life programs.

SR-232A

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine universal telephone service.

SR-253

Foreign Relations
Western Hemisphere, Peace Corps, Narcotics and Terrorism Subcommittee
To hold hearings on Mexican and American responses to the international narcotics threat.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the Committee on Indian Affairs on Indian housing programs.

SD-106

Indian Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs on Indian housing programs.

SD-106

MARCH 13

9:00 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for agricultural research.

SR-332

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
To resume hearings to examine issues with regard to competitive change in the electric power industry.

SD-G50

Environment and Public Works

Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act, focusing on program eligibility.

SD-406

Governmental Affairs

International Security, Proliferation and Federal Services Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine national missile defense and prospects for U.S.-Russia ABM Treaty accommodation.

SD-342

9:45 a.m.

Appropriations
District of Columbia Subcommittee
To hold joint hearings with the Committee on Governmental Affairs' Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management and The District of Columbia with the House Government Reform and Oversight Subcommittee on the District of Columbia and the House Appropriations Subcommittee on the District of Columbia to examine the Government of the District of Columbia's perspective on the Administration's proposal for the District of Columbia.

2154 Rayburn Building

Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management and The District of Columbia Subcommittee
To hold joint hearings with the Committee on Appropriations' Subcommittee on District of Columbia with the House Government Reform and Oversight Subcommittee on the District of Columbia and the House Appropriations Subcommittee on the District of Columbia to examine the Government of the District of Columbia's perspective

on the Administration's proposal for the District of Columbia.

2154 Rayburn Building

10:00 a.m.

Armed Services

To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on the unified commands military strategies and operational requirements.

SR-222

Foreign Relations

International Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings on the President's proposed budget requests for fiscal year 1998 for certain International Organizations and Conferences and the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

SD-419

Judiciary

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SD-226

Labor and Human Resources

Business meeting, to mark up S. 4, to provide private sector employees the same opportunities for time-and-a-half compensatory time off, biweekly work programs, and flexible credit hour programs to help balance the demands and needs of work and family, and to clarify the provisions relating to exemptions of certain professionals from the minimum wage and overtime requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and pending nominations.

SD-430

Joint Economic

To hold hearings to examine economic problems of the income tax system.

SD-628

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine the future of Chechnya.

SD-538

2:00 p.m.

Appropriations

Interior Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Energy.

SD-124

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Commerce.

S-146, Capitol

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the future of intercity passenger rail service.

SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources

National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the future of the National Park System and to identify and discuss the needs, requirements, and innovative programs that will insure the Park Service will continue to meet its responsibilities well into the next century.

SD-366

Joint Printing

To hold an organizational meeting; to be followed by a hearing on oversight of the Government Printing Office (GPO).

S-128, Capitol

2:30 p.m.

Select on Intelligence

To continue hearings in closed session on the nomination of Anthony Lake, of Massachusetts, to be Director of Central Intelligence.

SH-219

MARCH 14

9:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings on the nominations of Johnny H. Hayes, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, Brig. Gen. Robert Bernard Flowers, USA, to be a Member of the Mississippi River Commission, and Judith M. Espinosa, of New Mexico, and Michael Rappoport, of Arizona, each to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation.

SD-406

Labor and Human Resources

To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Higher Education Act.

SD-430

MARCH 18

9:00 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for agricultural research.

SR-332

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Room to be announced

Appropriations

Energy and Water Development Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for energy research programs of the Department of Energy.

SD-124

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings on proposals to authorize state and local governments to enact flow control laws and to regulate the interstate transportation of solid waste.

SD-406

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Department of Agriculture.

SD-138

Armed Services

To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on the unified commands military strategies and operational requirements.

SH-216

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SR-253

Labor and Human Resources

To hold hearings on the nomination of Alexis M. Herman, of Alabama, to be Secretary of Labor.

SD-430

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Oceans and Fisheries Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed legislation
authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998
for the United States Coast Guard.
SR-253

MARCH 19

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Aviation Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine inter-
national aviation and United States-
United Kingdom bilateral agreements.
SR-253

Environment and Public Works
Transportation and Infrastructure Sub-
committee

To resume hearings on proposed legisla-
tion authorizing funds for programs of
the Intermodal Surface Transportation
Efficiency Act, focusing on environ-
mental programs and statewide and
metropolitan planning.
SD-406

Labor and Human Resources

To hold hearings to examine proposals to
reform the operation of the Food and
Drug Administration.
SD-430

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House
Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the
legislative recommendations of the
Disabled American Veterans.
345 Cannon Building

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee

To hold closed hearings to review pro-
posed budget estimates for fiscal year
1998 for the intelligence community.
S-407, Capitol

2:00 p.m.

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judici-
ary Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 1998 for the Se-
curities and Exchange Commission.
S-146, Capitol

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings on S. 377, to promote
electronic commerce by facilitating
the use of strong encryption.
SR-253

MARCH 20

9:00 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To resume hearings on proposed legisla-
tion authorizing funds for agricultural
research.
SR-332

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Energy and Water Development Sub-
committee

To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 1998 for atomic
energy defense activities of the Depart-
ment of Energy.
SD-124

Energy and Natural Resources

To resume hearings to examine issues
with regard to competitive change in
the electric power industry.
SH-216

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House
Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the
legislative recommendations of
AMVETS, the American Ex-Prisoners
of War, the Veterans of World War I,
and the Vietnam Veterans of America.
345 Cannon Building

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Labor, Health and Human Services, and
Education Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 1998 for the De-
partment of Education.
SD-192

Appropriations

Transportation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 1998 for the De-
partment of Transportation.
SD-192

Labor and Human Resources

To resume hearings on proposed legisla-
tion authorizing funds for programs of
the Higher Education Act.
SD-430

2:00 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Surface Transportation and Merchant Ma-
rine Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposals to
reform the ocean shipping industry.
SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources

National Parks, Historic Preservation, and
Recreation Subcommittee

To resume hearings to examine the fu-
ture of the National Park System and
to identify and discuss the needs, re-
quirements, and innovative programs
that will insure the Park Service will
continue to meet its responsibilities
well into the next century.
SD-366

APRIL 8

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Sub-
committee

To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 1998 for the En-
vironmental Protection Agency.
SD-138

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Agriculture, Rural Development, and Re-
lated Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 1998 for the
Farm Service Agency, the Foreign Ag-
ricultural Service, and the Risk Man-
agement Agency, Department of Agri-
culture.
SD-124

2:00 p.m.

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judici-
ary Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine child por-
nography issues.
S-146, Capitol

APRIL 9

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 1998 for Navy
and Marine Corps programs.
SD-192

APRIL 10

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judici-
ary Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 1998 for the Im-
migration and Naturalization Service,
Federal Bureau of Investigation, and
the Drug Enforcement Administration.
S-146, Capitol

Appropriations

Transportation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 1998 for the De-
partment of Transportation
SD-192

APRIL 15

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Sub-
committee

To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 1998 for the De-
partment of Housing and Urban Devel-
opment.
SD-138

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Agriculture, Rural Development, and Re-
lated Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 1998 for the
Rural Utilities Service, the Rural
Housing Service, the Rural Business-
Cooperative Service, and the Alter-
native Agricultural Research and Com-
mercialization Center, all of the De-
partment of Agriculture.
SD-124

2:00 p.m.

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judici-
ary Subcommittee

To hold hearings on counter-terrorism is-
sues.
S-146, Capitol

APRIL 16

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 1998 for the De-
partment of the Army.
SD-192

Appropriations

Transportation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 1998 for the De-
partment of Transportation.
SD-124

2:00 p.m.

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judici-
ary Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 1998 for the Fed-
eral Communications Commission.
S-146, Capitol

APRIL 17

1:30 p.m.

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judici-
ary Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 1998 for the Su-
preme Court of the United States and
the Judiciary.
S-146, Capitol

APRIL 22

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Sub-
committee

To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 1998 for the Na-
tional Science Foundation and the Of-
fice of Science and Technology Policy.
SD-192

Appropriations
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Environmental Management Program of the Department of Energy.
SD-124

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Agricultural Research Service, the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, the Economic Research Service, and the National Agricultural Statistics Service, all of the Department of Agriculture.
SD-138

APRIL 23

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense, focusing on medical programs.
SD-192

APRIL 24

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Corp of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior.
SD-124

APRIL 29

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Veterans Affairs.
SD-138

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the

Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and the Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Resources.
SD-124

APRIL 30

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense, focusing on the structure and modernization of the National Guard.
SD-192

MAY 6

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
SD-138

MAY 7

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense.
SD-192

MAY 14

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense, focusing on environmental programs.
SD-192

MAY 21

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense, focusing on Air Force programs.
SD-192

JUNE 4

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense.
SD-192

JUNE 11

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense.
SD-192

CANCELLATIONS

MARCH 11

10:00 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Energy and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.
SD-366

MARCH 13

10:00 a.m.
Labor and Human Resources
To hold hearings to examine proposals to improve the health status of children.
SD-430

POSTPONEMENTS

MARCH 11

2:30 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings on S. 377, to promote electronic commerce by facilitating the use of strong encryption.
SR-253